THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) to (c) It is not true that the local languages are becoming obsolete. Use of computers and all available modern facilities can, and in fact are being use, to promote the local languages, wherever possible. In the matter of language Government of India is fully alive to its responsibilities as laid down in the Constitution and has been taking all necessary action.

Re-establishment of Border Out Posts

*532.. SHRI PRAKANTA WARISA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have a proposal for re-establishment of BOPs (Border Out Posts) in the border areas of Assam, Nagaland and Manipur States in North Cachar hills district to check the anti-national elements/extremists/ infiltrators and social crimes etc.;

(b) if so, the details of the steps initiated by Government;

(c) if not, the reasons for not taking appropriate steps in this regard; and

(d) by when the said proposal is likely to be implemented?

The MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) to (b) The Army has no proposal at present to re-establish border out posts in the border areas of Assam, Nagaland and Manipur States in North Cachar Hills district. The present operational deployment of security forces is considered adequate.

Undertrials in Delhi Jails

*533.. SHRI S. RAMACHANDRAN PILLAI : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Government have undertaken any study about the undertrial prisoners remaining in jail in the Union Territory of Delhi for a period of more than the maximum punishment that can be awarded for the offences they have been charged with;

(b) if so, the number of such cases; and

(c) the action Government intend to take in this matter?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L. K. ADVANI): (a) to (c) No, Sir. However, the Prison Administration continuously monitors the position and there is no undertrial prisoner lodged at present in the Central Jail, Tihar who has spent in the jail a period more than the maximum period of imprisonment that can be awarded to him for the offence he is alleged to have committed.

Stiff Competition Faced by Cotton Textile Industry

*534. SHRI RAMACHANDRAIAH RUMANDLA :

SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH :

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether synthetic cloth materials are posing challenge to cotton textile markets: and

(b) if so, the measures proposed to help the cotton textile industry and the markets?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA) : (a) No Sir, Cotton and synthetic textiles including blends complement and supplement each other according to varying consumer demands and preferences.

(b) Government of India have launched the Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFS) for modernisation of the textile indusry and the Technology Mission on Cotton (TMC) with a view to improving productivity and quality of cotton, thereby, ensuring availability of quality raw material to the textile industry and strengthening its competitiveness in both domestic and international markets.

Garment Exports

*535. SHRI S. AGNIRAJ : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) The total export of garments during the last financial year 1999-2000;

(b) the increase/decrease percentage as compared to the previous year 1998-99;

(c) what steps are being taken to boost garment exports;